

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

13 January 1989

CHRONOLOGY: NORTH KOREA
December 1988

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1 December

Deputy Foreign Minister Cha Pong-chu speaks at P'yongyang meeting marking 40 years of diplomatic relations with **Bulgaria**. (KCNA 2 December 1988)

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Deputy Premier Kim Yun-hyok attends Embassy reception hosted by **Albanian** Ambassador Antoni to mark 76th anniversary of independence and 44th anniversary of Albanian revolution. (KCNA 2 December 1988)

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Outgoing **Cuban** Ambassador Ricardo Danza Sigas pays courtesy call on Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam. (KCNA 1 December 1988)

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This memorandum was prepared by [] Office of East Asian Analysis. Information available as of 13 January 1989 was used in its preparation. Comments and queries are welcome and may be directed to the Chief, Korea Branch, Northeast Asia Division, OEA, []

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KWP Secretary Hwang Chang-yop meets with reporters of Cuban Party magazine, Granma. (KCNA 1 December 1988)

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1-22 December

Chairman Supreme People's Assembly Standing Committee Yang Hyong-sop heads delegation to **Czechoslovakia** and **Romania**. During six-day visit in Czechoslovakia, Yang meets with counterpart Alois Indra and pays courtesy calls on General Secretary Milos Jakes and President Gustav Husak. In Romania, Yang holds talks with counterpart Nicolae Giosan and meets with President Nicolae Ceausescu. Six-day visit includes tour of industrial, farm, and cultural units in Dimbovita County and Tirgoviste City. Yang meets briefly with **Soviet** counterpart Khristoradnov during Moscow stopover. Yang concludes trip in **Indonesia**, holds discussions with Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare Soepardjo Rustam and pays courtesy calls on President Soeharto, Foreign Minister Alatas, and Speaker Suhud. (KCNA 1 December 1988; Prague CTK 5 December 1988; Prague Rude Pravo 7 December 1988; Bucharest Agerpres 6 December 1988; Bucharest Agerpres 9 December 1988; Bucharest Agerpres 12 December 1988; Moscow Izvestiya 16 December 1988; Beijing Xinhua 23 December 1988;

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2 December

South Korea Trade Promotion Corporation (KOTRA) signs agreement in Moscow with **Soviet** Chamber of Commerce to establish trade offices in Seoul and Moscow in early 1989. Agreement also includes exchange of businessmen and business information, joint venture projects, a joint advance toward third countries, and trade exhibition exchanges. (Seoul Television Service in Korean 2 December 1988)

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Kim Il-song receives **Cuban** Ambassador Ricardo Danza Sigas for farewell courtesy call. (KCNA 2 December 1988)

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Deputy Premier Kim Pok-sin speaks at reception hosted by **Bulgarian** Ambassador Petur Danailov marking 40 years of North Korea-Bulgarian relations. (KCNA 3 December 1988)

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3-12 December

KWP Secretary Hwang Chang-yop heads Party delegation to **India**; signs cooperation agreement in New Delhi between Korean Workers Party and Indian National Congress Party. (KCNA 3 December 1988; KCNA 11 December 1988; KCNA 12 December 1988)

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	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	25X1
5 December	Hungary opens permanent mission in Seoul. At news conference, recently arrived Ambassador Sandor Etre declares negotiations will begin soon to establish full diplomatic relations between Hungary and South Korea. (Seoul Yonhap 5 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
6 December	On separate occasions Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam meets with newly appointed Ambassador of Equatorial Guinea Eulogio Oyo Riquesa and newly appointed Ambassador of Central African Republic Ferdinand Pounzi. (KCNA 6 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
	Members of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in North Korea inspect Sunch'on Vinalon Complex and Central Quality and Measurement Scientific Institute. (KCNA 6 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
7 December	President Kim Il-song meets separately with newly arrived Ambassadors from Equatorial Guinea and Central African Republic , Eulogio Oyo Riquesa and Ferdinand Pounzi. (KCNA 7 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
7-9 December	Foreign Minister of Nepal Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya pays official visit to P'yongyang; holds talks with Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and meets with Kim Il-song . (KCNA 7 December 1988; KCNA 8 December 1988; KCNA 9 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
7 December	Delegation of League of Socialist Working Youth (LSWYK), headed by Central Committee Chairman Ch'oe Yong-hae, travels to China to prepare for 13th World Youth Festival; meets with Tianjin Provincial Party Secretary Li Ruihuan. (KCNA 7 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
8 December	Machine Industry Minister Kye Hyong-sun heads delegation to Soviet Union . (KCNA 8 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
9 December	Deputy Chairman of SPA Standing Committee Son Song-p'il, Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Hyong-yol, and Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Yi Song-nok are among officials attending	

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	reception hosted by Finnish Ambassador to mark Finland's National Day. (KCNA 11 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
	Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF) publishes open letter supporting South Korean proposals for all-nation conference and agreeing to January 1989 meeting. CPRF also recommends participation in conference by representatives of public and overseas organizations and suggests P'anmunjom or third country as venue, as well as preliminary contacts between working representatives of North and South. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 9 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
9-10 December	KWP Secretary Ho Chong-suk attends 11th plenary meeting of Central Committee of Union of Agricultural Working People; Central Committee Chairman Pak Su-tong delivers report. (KCNA 11 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
10 December	Through third country, Seoul offers humanitarian aid to Armenian earthquake victims in Soviet Union , first time South Korea has offered to help a Communist country. (Seoul Yonhap 10 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
11 December	Premier Yi Kun-mo and Deputy Premier Chong Chun-ki call at Soviet Embassy to express condolences to Armenian earthquake victims. (KCNA 11 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
	Former North Korean Ambassador to Hungary Kim P'yong-il--son of Kim Il-song and step-brother of Kim Chong-il--is reassigned Ambassador to Bulgaria . (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 11 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
	Fifteenth full session of Sixth Party Central Committee relieves Yi Kun-mo--ostensibly for health reasons--of premiership and Politburo status and appoints KWP Secretary Yon Hyong-muk as his replacement--presumably for his expertise in economics. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 12 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
12 December	President Kim Il-song presides over Fourth Session of Eighth Supreme People's Assembly (SPA). Officials seated at the rostrum include Kim Chong-il , Defense Minister O Chin-u, Vice Presidents Pak Song-ch'ol and Yi Chong-ok, and Yon	

[REDACTED]

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Hyong-muk. Session rubberstamps Central Committee's 11 December decision to appoint Yon Hyong-muk as Premier, replacing Yi Kun-mo. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 12 December 1988; P'yongyang Television Service in Korean 12 December 1988) [REDACTED]

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North Korean Red Cross announces decision to send relief goods to **Soviet** Armenian earthquake victims. (KCNA 12 December 1988) [REDACTED]

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Chief Secretary P'yongyang City Party Committee Kang Hui-won attends meeting at 5 October Automation General Plant held to support Kim Il-song's 28 November guidelines to develop machine tool and automation industries. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 13 December 1988) [REDACTED]

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Czechoslovakia decides to establish unofficial trade relations with South Korea; plans to conclude agreement in Seoul in Spring 1989. (Seoul Yonhap 14 December 1988; [REDACTED])

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13 December

South Korea notifies North Korea that Seoul is reviewing P'yongyang's 16 November call for high-level political-military talks and expects to reply soon. Seoul also requests postponement of 15 December preliminary talks due to Cabinet changes. (Beijing Xinhua 13 December 1988; Seoul Television Service in Korean 13 December 1988) [REDACTED]

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Sweden rejects North Korean bank officials' offer to pay symbolic amount on \$133 million loan which dates back to 1976. (Seoul The Korea Herald 13 December 1988) [REDACTED]

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14 December

North Korea agrees to postponement of seventh preliminary parliamentary talks at P'anmunjom; sets new date for 29 December. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 14 December 1988) [REDACTED]

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15 December

South Korean Trade and Industry Ministry announces decision to allow South Koreans to visit North Korea and North Koreans to visit South Korea for business purposes with three-week notice to Ministry. (Seoul Yonhap 15 December 1988) [REDACTED]

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South Korea's Samsung Company announces agreement with **Soviet** Chamber of Commerce to set up permanent liaison

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	office in World Trade Center in Moscow. First time Korean firm will use its own name in Soviet Union. (Seoul Yonhap 15 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
16 December	The Japanese Justice Ministry grants special three-year free-movement permit to North Korean defector Min Hong-ku, who stowed away on Japanese ship Fuiisan Maru in 1983. (Tokyo Kyodo 16 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 140px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
16-20 December	Government delegation from Poland, headed by Deputy Chairman Council of Ministers Janusz Patorski, visits P'yongyang to attend 12th joint meeting of economic and scientific-technological committee. Delegation meets with Premier Yon Hyong-muk and signs protocol of meeting. (KCNA 16 December 1988; KCNA 19 December 1988; KCNA 20 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
19 December	KWP Secretary Kim Chong-il ¹ attends opera performance and offers guidance for writers and artists, stressing need for works with chuche-oriented ideological themes. (KCNA 21 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 140px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
19-25 December	Mining and Metal Industry delegation from Iran, headed by Mines and Metals Minister Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi visits P'yongyang; meets with Kim Il-song and Premier Yon Hyong-muk. Ayatollahi and Metal Industry Minister Ch'oe Man-hyon sign memorandum of understanding to exchange mining and metallurgy material. (Tehran IRNA 18 December 1988; KCNA 20 December 1988; KCNA 24 December 1988; Tehran IRNA 25 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 140px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1
20 December	North Korea reiterates five-year old proposal for tripartite talks with Washington, Seoul, and P'yongyang; suggests preparatory meeting in unspecified country in December 1988. Agenda focuses on US forces withdrawal and mutual North-South force reductions. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 20 December 1988; Seoul Yonhap 20 December 1988) <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 140px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div>	25X1

¹ Top officials accompanying Kim include Kye Ung-t'ae, Ho Tam, Chon Pyong-ho, Han Song-yong, Pak Nam-ki, Chang Ch'ol, and Paek In-chun.

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	Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam meets with newly appointed Cuban Ambassador Juan Jose Leon Vega during courtesy call. (KCNA 21 December 1988)	25X1
20-23 December	Military delegation from Soviet Union, headed by Deputy Chief of Staff Colonel General B. Omelichev, visits P'yongyang; holds talks with Chief of Staff Ch'oe Kwang and meets with Defense Minister O Chin-u. (KCNA 20 December 1988; KCNA 22 December 1988; KCNA 23 December 1988)	25X1
21 December	In Nodong Sinmun editorial, North Korea strongly denounces Japanese government decision to release Min Hong-ku as a "dastardly and shameless act of Japanese reactionaries." (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 21 December 1988)	25X1
	P'yongyang proposes North and South Korea form joint team to participate in 1990 Asian Games in Beijing. (KCNA 21 December 1988)	25X1
	Deputy Chairman of Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries O Mun-han and Soviet Ambassador Bartoshevich sign 1989 cooperation protocol in P'yongyang between joint friendship societies. (KCNA 22 December 1988)	25X1
	Representatives of Zimbabwe and North Korea sign agreement in Harare for cooperation in police training; Korean instructors will train Zimbabwean policemen in self-defense, bayonet charge, and arms and equipment handling. (Beijing Xinhua 21 December 1988)	25X1
22 December	In separate courtesy calls, newly appointed Afghan Ambassador Hashmatullah Kayani meets with Defense Minister O Chin-u and KWP Secretary Ho Tam. (KCNA 22 December 1988; KCNA 23 December 1988)	25X1
22-24 December	Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze pays official visit to P'yongyang; conveys personal letter from Gorbachev to Kim Il-song and holds talks with Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam. Communique and banquet speech express support for P'yongyang's reunification proposals and opposition to cross recognition. Shevardnadze also reaffirms Soviet intentions not to establish political or economic ties	



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with Seoul. Comment: **Kim Chong-il** participates in meeting with Shevardnadze and elder Kim. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 22 December 1988; KCNA 23 December 1988; Moscow TASS 24 December 1988)

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24 December

Premier Yon Hyong-muk cuts ribbon at ceremony to open Ansan Bridge, which provides additional highway access to the Angol Sports Village in southeast P'yongyang. Other officials present include Deputy Premier Cho Se-ung, P'yongyang Mayor Kang Hui-won, Transportation Committee Chairman Yi Kil-song, State Construction Committee Chairman Kim Ung-sang, Railways Minister Pak Yong-sok, and Construction Minister Cho Ch'ol-chun. (P'yongyang Domestic Service in Korean 24 December 1988)

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Kim Il-song receives credentials from newly appointed Cuban Ambassador Juan Jose Leon Vega. (KCNA 24 December 1988)

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26 December

A Nodong Sinmun editorial marks 10th anniversary of **Kim Chong-il** publication "Let Us Effect a New Turn in Socialist Construction By Enhancing the Militancy of the Party." (KCNA 26 December 1988)

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North Korea invites South Korean students to participate in 13th World Youth Festival, scheduled for 1-8 July 1989; suggests nine to 11 students meet at P'anmunjom in March 1989 for preparatory talks. (Seoul Yonhap 26 December 1988)

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26-30 December

Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and Foreign Trade Minister Chong Song-nam head political-economic delegation to Iran for talks on expansion of bilateral ties during the post-war reconstruction period. Kim meets with Speaker of Parliament Hashemi-Rafsanjani, President Khamenei, and Prime Minister Musavi-Khamenei, holding talks with Foreign Minister Velayati. (Tehran IRNA 26 December 1988; IRNA 27 December 1988; IRNA 28 December 1988; KCNA 28 December 1988; KCNA 30 December 1988; KCNA 31 December 1988)

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26 December-
January

Foreign Trade Minister Chong Song-nam inspects oil and port facilities in Bushehr, Iran and travels to Gilan Province to see agricultural and development projects. Chong holds talks with Foreign Minister Velayati and Energy Minister



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Namdar-Zangeneh and signs memorandum of understanding which calls for cooperation in fisheries, energy, and rural development. Iran will assist North Korea to explore and exploit its oil resources. Chong and Construction Minister Gholam Reza Foruzesh also sign agreement to establish joint scientific-technological cooperation committee. (Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 30, 31 December 1988; IRNA 2 January 1989; Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 5 January 1988; KCNA 5 December 1988)

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27 December

KWP Secretary Ho Tam meets with recently appointed Cuban Ambassador Juan Jose Leon Vega for courtesy call. (KCNA 27 December 1988)

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28 December

Vice President Pak Song-ch'ol receives Cuban Ambassador Leon for courtesy call. (KCNA 28 December 1988)

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South Korea officially accepts North Korea's proposal for high-level political and military conference between the two Koreas, accepting most of P'yongyang's agenda; counterproposes that talks be upgraded to prime ministerial-level. (Seoul Yonhap 24 December 1988; Seoul Yonhap 27 December 1988)

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29 December

Seventh round of preliminary parliamentary discussions between North and South deadlocks at P'yongyang's insistence that Team Spirit be added to agenda for proposed joint parliamentary session. Next meeting set for 10 February 1989. (Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 29 December 1988)

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30 December

KWP Secretary Ho Tam, Vice President Yi Chong-ok, and Deputy Premier Chong Chun-ki are among senior officials attending central meeting to mark 30th anniversary of Cuban revolution. Ho and Cuban Ambassador Leon give speeches. (KCNA 31 December 1988)

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Seoul agrees to P'yongyang proposal to field single Korean team to 1990 Asian Games in Beijing; suggests preliminary talks be held on 9 March 1989 at P'anmunjom. (Seoul Yonhap 30 December 1988)

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31 December

Diplomatic Corps of P'yongyang pay yearly New Year courtesy call on **Kim Il-song**; other officials present include **Kim Chong-il**, O Chin-u, Yon Hyong-muk, Yi Chong-ok, Kim Yong-nam, Kye Ung-t'ae, Ho Tam, Chon Pyong-ho, and So Yun-sok. (KCNA 31 December 1988)

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Kim Il-song, accompanied by O Chin-u, Yon Hyong-muk, and Yi Chong-ok, attends annual children's New Year celebration. (KCNA 31 December 1988)

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Kim Chong-il sends congratulations to Raul Castro, First Vice President of Councils of State and Ministers and Cuban leader Fidel's brother, on 30th anniversary of Cuban revolution. Comment: First report of National Day message from Kim Chong-il to a foreign leader. (KCNA 31 December 1988)

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<u>Key Appearances*</u>		
<u>Leaders</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>1988</u>
Kim Il-song	9	121
Kim Chong-il	4	21
O Chin-u	4	51
<u>Competition for Diplomatic Recognition</u>		
		<u>Total Countries</u>
North Korea	unchanged	102
South Korea	unchanged	130

* Number of days these North Korean leaders appeared in public according to press.

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LOOKING AHEAD

14 January	29th anniversary of activation of Workers/Farmers Red Guard Unit. 	25X1
17 January	42nd anniversary of founding of League of Socialist Working Youth (LSWYK). 	25X1
21 January	21st anniversary of North Korean commando attack on Blue House. 	25X1
23 January	21st anniversary of capture of USS Pueblo. 	25X1
February	Stanford University's International Strategic Institute to host meeting; academics from both North and South Korea likely to be present. 	25X1
6-14 February	Five-nation soccer meet in Hong Kong; both North and South Korea expected to participate. 	25X1
16 February	47th birthday of Kim Chong-il. 	25X1
20 February	First anniversary of start of first "200-day Battle" for economic construction. 	25X1
30 March-3 April	Fourth Meeting of International Preparatory Committee for 13th World Youth Festival in P'yongyang. 	25X1
15 April	77th birthday of Kim Il-song. 	25X1
21 April 1882	Birthday of Kim Il-song's mother, Kang Pan-sok. 	25X1
25 April	North Korean Armed Forces Day. 	25X1



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[REDACTED]

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1 May

International Workers' Day.

[REDACTED]

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1-8 July

13th World Youth Festival in P'yongyang.

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October

Ten-day all-Korean sports event planned by South Korea; will include overseas Koreans from Soviet Union, China, Japan, North and South America, Europe, and North Korea.

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